

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING FONA INTERNATIONAL,
INC.

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor FONA International, Inc., a company located in Geneva, Illinois, which was recently named the number one small/medium workplace in Chicago by Fortune magazine and consulting firm Great Place to Work.

At FONA International, Inc. 97 percent of employees say they are proud of their workplace, have been offered training or development to further themselves professionally, and have access to a special and unique benefit system.

This was only possible due to the leadership of Joe and Mary Slawek. Since FONA International's founding in 1987 the Slaweks have been the driving force behind its exceptional corporate culture which stresses retaining and recognizing its employees. The Slaweks have championed innovative programs and initiatives which have earned their company a spot on the National Association for Business Resources' list of Chicago's 101 Best and Brightest Companies to Work for.

FONA International, Inc. is currently celebrating 30 years creating and producing flavors for the largest food, beverage, and nutrition companies in the world. Their excellent work over the years has made them an industry leader and they have even been awarded the 2016 Food Quality and Safety Award by Food Quality and Safety magazine.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me in congratulating FONA International, Inc. on being named the number one workplace in Chicagoland and for their legacy of achievement. FONA International Inc. is a company that truly cares not only for their customers, but also for their employees.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, on July 17, 2017, I was absent from the House and missed Roll Call Vote 379. Had I been present for Roll Call Vote 379, on passage of H.R. 2210, I would have voted Yes.

RECOGNIZING THE 27TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 27th Anniversary of the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Congress passed the ADA to break down the physical and societal barriers that kept disabled Americans from fully participating in the American Dream. From creating standards for wheelchair accessibility in places open to the public, to requiring 911 phone lines to be equipped to respond to hearing-impaired callers, the ADA has transformed the lives of millions of Americans. The progress we've made is remarkable, and I'm proud to have been part of these efforts.

Throughout my career, I have seen few pieces of legislation that bring all people together as much as the ADA. Not only did this historic legislation pass both chambers with large bipartisan majorities, but the ADA Amendments Act passed unanimously in 2008. This legislation shows that Congress can come together to solve problems for the betterment of the American people.

I proudly stand with the thousands of advocates who come to Washington, D.C. this week to continue the fight for the rights of all Americans.

VALERIA ALU'S 101ST BIRTHDAY

HON. PAUL MITCHELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give special recognition to one of Michigan's oldest residents who will celebrate her 101st birthday on August 9th. Ms. Alu was born in 1916 and lived in the Detroit area for over 60 years, witnessing first-hand the incredible changes of the city before moving into Michigan's 10th District. Val, as she likes to be called, spent her life serving others by teaching immigrants the path to gain U.S. citizenship. Val also enjoys reading and has fond memories baking cookies with her daughter every day.

I would like to congratulate Ms. Valeria Alu on this amazing milestone, and thank her for countless years of service. I wish this centenarian a very healthy and happy birthday.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CHILD NUTRITION REAUTHORIZATION ACT

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to express my strong support for reauthorization of the Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act (CNR). Every 5 years, we are provided with an opportunity to strengthen child nutrition and school meal programs so they meet the nutrition needs of our children. The last time we reauthorized Child Nutrition programs was in 2010 when President Obama signed the Health, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. This Act included a number of improvements to the quality of school food and created a national afterschool meal program, in addition to several other positive provisions that have helped to address food insecurity since its passage. That law expired in 2015. Financial problems plaguing the CNR cannot be addressed unless Congress takes decisive action in reforming this legislation.

The issues of food insecurity and nutrition in this country impact far too many families. According to the USDA, 13 percent of American households are food insecure. Families in my district are disproportionately affected by food insecurity. For example, this inadequate access to food is a stark reality for individuals in Wilcox County, where thirty-three percent of the population has uncertain access to food. In Dallas, Greene and Sumter Counties, the food insecurity rate is higher than 29 percent.

Most troubling, though, is the alarming percentage of children in my district affected by the issue of food scarcity. In Tuscaloosa, 23 percent of children faced food scarcity in 2016. Furthermore, sixty-six percent of students in Tuscaloosa City Schools rely on free or reduced lunch programs. For these children, federal programs provide essential nutrition that they would not otherwise have access to.

Hunger can have serious, harmful effects on a child's health and ability to learn. Childhood hunger is associated with behavioral, attention, academic, and emotional problems. These struggles can lead to lower test scores, higher levels of school failure, other potentially lifelong health problems, and learning deficits. Prioritizing this issue is necessary to revitalize the crucial nutrition programs that many children in this country rely on. We cannot afford to leave our most vulnerable citizens without access to the proper resources they need in order to thrive and contribute to our society. That is why I am urging Congress to take action and renew the Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act.

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